



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

United States Patent and Trademark Office

Address: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS
Washington, D.C. 20231

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------

09/126,826 07/31/98 YAMAZAKI

S 07977/019002

020985
FISH & RICHARDSON, PC
4350 LA JOLLA VILLAGE DRIVE
SUITE 500
SAN DIEGO CA 92122

MM91/0507

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, D

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2871

DATE MAILED: 05/07/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/126,826

Applicant(s)

Yamazaki et al.

Examiner

Dung Nguyen

Art Unit

2871

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Feb 22, 2001.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 7-10, 13-19, 22-24, 27-37, 39, 42-48, 51-58, and 61-64 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1, 2, 4, 7-10, 13-19, 22-24, 27-37, 39, 42-48, 51-58, and 61-64 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 20) ☐ Other:

Art Unit: 2871

Response to Amendment

Applicant's amendment dated 02/22/2001 has been received and entered.

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-10, 13-19, 28-32, 36-37, 39, 42-49, 51-54 and newly added claims 63-64 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mawatari et al., US Patent No. 5,200,847 as stated in the previous office action.

Regarding claims 1, 2, 4, 28, 39, 42, 43 and 63-64, although such claims are now amended, such amendment are not sufficient to overcome its rejection in the previous Office Action. It should be noted that the limitation "a driver circuit comprising thin film transistors that are formed from a stick substrate separate from said substrates and are peeled from said stick substrate after the formation and are adhered to said one of the substrates by said resin adhesive layer" recites a one-step process which does not further limit the structure of the claimed invention. Therefore, the process limitation does not have patentable weight.

Regarding claims 7-10, 13-19, 29, 30-32, 44-47, 49 and 51-54, Applicants contend that Mawatari et al. do not disclose a passivation film covering the driver circuit and having a contact hole to allow an electrical connection between at least one of the TFTs and the pixel circuit, wherein the contact hole has a tapered configuration (amendment, page 6). The Examiner is not

Art Unit: 2871

convinced by this argument since the structure as defined is inherently formed in the active matrix LCD structure as stated in the previous office action.

2. Claims 22, 23, 27, 55-57, 33-35 and 61-62 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mawatari et al., US Patent No. 5,200,847, in view of Watanable et al., US Patent No. 4,643,526, as stated in the previous office action.

Applicants argue that Watanable et al. fail to disclose the driver circuit comprising TFTs and connecting to the substrate through a metal bump. The Examiner agrees with Applicants that Watanable et al. do not explicitly the driver circuit comprising the TFTs. However, it is well known in the art that a driver circuit is made of TFTs as evidence from Mawatari et al. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one skill in the art to form an LCD device of Mawatari et al. having a metal bump as stated in the previous office action. In addition, as mention above, IC chip can be made by TFTs, so as the combination of Mawatari and Watanable is proper.

Double Patenting

3. Claims 1, 2, 4, 7-10, 13-19, 22-24, 27-37, 39, 42-49, 51-58 and 61-62 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 5 and 17 of U.S. Patent No. 5,834,327, as stated in the final office action.

Applicant's request that a formal response to the Double Patenting rejection be held in abeyance until other rejections are resolved is acknowledged.

Art Unit: 2871

Conclusion

4. Applicant's arguments filed 02/22/2001 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2871

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Dung Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 305-0423. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 308-7722.

Any information of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

DN
05/05/2001



William L. Sikes
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 2800



**U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office
Assistant Commissioner for Patents**

Fax Cover Sheet

Date: August 20, 2001	
To: Norman Green	From: Dung Nguyen
Application/Control Number: 09/126,826	Art Unit: 2871
Fax No.: (858) 678-5099	Phone No.: 703-305-0423
Voice No.: (858) 678-4315	Return Fax No.: 703-308-7726
Re: Final Office Action	CC:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Urgent <input type="checkbox"/> For Review <input type="checkbox"/> For Comment <input type="checkbox"/> For Reply <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Per Your Request	

Comments:

If you have not received all of the pages, please contact to the Examiner Nguyen at the above phone number.

Number of pages 5 including this page

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

This facsimile transmission is an Official U.S. Government document which may contain information which is privileged and confidential. It is intended only for use of the recipient named above. If you are not the intended recipient, any dissemination, distribution or copying of this document is strictly prohibited. If this document is received in error, you are requested to immediately notify the sender at the above indicated telephone number and return the entire document in an envelope addressed to:

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231